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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 627
By Crowe

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Kevin Cable of Mountain City upon being chosen as Tennessee's top middle school-level youth volunteer for 2000 in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary Tennesseans who have generously dedicated their talents and energies to helping others; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Cable, a true representative of the Volunteer State, is one such person and is most assuredly deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, an esteemed resident of Mountain City, Kevin will receive a \$1,000 award, an engraved silver medallion, and a trip to Washington, D.C. after being named as Tennessee's top middle school student volunteer in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for his impressive community service record of volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, Kevin initiated a letter-writing campaign to governors across the county encouraging them to institute a special Weapons Awareness Day; and

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WHEREAS, the Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals offers the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards; and

WHEREAS, this 13-year-old seventh-grader wisely stated, " Every single boy I know in my grade has access to guns and ammunition in their homes. I know that they sometimes play with these firearms when their parents are not at home"; and

WHEREAS, Kevin astutely realizes that in order to change the world, change begins with the self; and

WHEREAS, in Tennessee, June 15 was declared Weapons Awareness Day in response to Kevin's letter writing campaign; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina responded when its governor proclaimed May 23-28 Youth Stop the Violence Week; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being judged on his philanthropic activities, Kevin and almost 20,000 high school and middle school student participants were measured on such criteria as personal initiative, creativity, effort, impact, and personal growth; and

WHEREAS, being generous with his time and energies is not a foreign concept to Kevin, he stated, "Young people need to stop turning our heads when we see kids who are cold, or just laughing when our friends talk about playing with their parents' guns. We need to do something to help everyone we can"; and

WHEREAS, Kevin has achieved national recognition for his exemplary volunteer service by his selection as Tennessee's top middle school-level youth volunteer for 2000 in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards; and

WHEREAS, this enthusiastic seventh-grader is a member of the Johnson County Middle School football team; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of the 4-H and Children Bible Mission Clubs, and is a faithful attendant of First Baptist Church of Mountain City; and

WHEREAS, Kevin plays violin, well-rounded young gentleman that he is, and has entertained invalids at the Mountain City Health Care Center and in private residences since the tender age of 7; and

WHEREAS, Kevin has also personally sewn and distributed more than 300 toboggans for needy children to wear on their heads during cold weather, as well as personally distributing donated food, clothing and toys to the needy; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of young Kevin to become a general in the United States Army, which, given all that he has already accomplished in such a short time, is very likely to happen; now, therefore,

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in a great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Kevin Cable, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Kevin Cable of Mountain City upon being chosen Tennessee's top middle school-level youth volunteer for 2000 in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, for his outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership and community spirit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to young Kevin our best wishes as he travels to Washington D.C. in May to compete among America's finest volunteers. We also extend our best wishes for his continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

